

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, February 12, 1999

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE).

APPOINTMENT OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 12, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EDWARD A. PEASE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

O Gracious God, as You have created each person and You have breathed into every soul the breath of our humanity, so teach us to live with each other as brothers and sisters who share a common heritage. May self-righteousness not taint our hearts nor undue pride mark our thoughts. As we think of people with whom we live, whether in our families or work or play, may Your words, O God, of faith and hope and love guide and support us all the day long and may Your blessing remain with us always. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BALLENGER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1999, PENDING ADJOURNMENT MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the

House adjourns on the legislative day of February 12, 1999, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 1999, unless the House sooner receives a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 27, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to the provisions of clause 11 of rule X and clause 11 of rule I, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

Ms. PELOSI of California;

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia;

Mr. SISISKY of Virginia;

Mr. CONDIT of California;

Mr. ROEMER of Indiana;

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

There was no objection.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NEVADA WILL RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, we often hear a lot about what Washington bureaucrats want to do about our children's education, but let me tell you what my Governor is doing about education at the State level.

Last month, in his first State of the State Address, Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn announced a bold and innovative plan to improve Nevada's high school dropout rate. In this plan, every Nevada high school student will receive a scholarship to a Nevada college or university based on scholastic achievement of maintaining a B average. The Millennium Scholarship plan will help motivate Nevada's students to seek higher education and better opportunities.

When Governor Guinn visited high schools recently, many students expressed excitement over this proposal, and that is our responsibility, to make these students excited about their edu-

cation. This scholarship program by our Republican governor will change the landscape for educating Nevada's students by creating opportunities that never before existed.

CUTTING TAXES DOES NOT TAKE MONEY FROM THE POOR TO GIVE TO THE RICH

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, at our gathering we had down in Virginia this past week, I got a great and very interesting fact delivered to me. Most people do not know how much the tax cuts that have been passed by the Republicans in the last several years have helped the poor.

Now this is true: A normal family of four will not pay any Federal income tax until they earn over \$40,000 a year. That means a large percentage of our population pay no income tax at all. So therefore when the gentlemen on the other side say over and over again that we are going to cut taxes for the rich and attack the poor, that is not true. If you cut taxes, only people who pay will pay less. Cutting taxes does not take money from the poor to give to the rich.

USING BUDGET SURPLUS FOR SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY, NOT FOR RECKLESS TAX CUTS

(Mr. SHOWS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, having been a farmer in Mississippi, I know firsthand that you are not always going to have good weather come planting and harvest time. No matter what the forecasters say, sometimes it rains when they are predicting sunshine, and sometimes a simple shower becomes a storm, and before you know it your fields are flooded and your crops are ruined.

Mr. Speaker, one tax cut plan that has been proposed attempts to predict the future of the American economy, but some Members insist on squandering away America's budget surplus today on a poorly planned across-the-board tax cut, when the responsible thing to do is use our budget surplus to save Social Security first and reduce the national debt.

Saving Social Security should be our top priority for today's and tomorrow's